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schools or transferred from Depot Brigades as the need may require.

In view of the comparatively short time during which most of the student-soldiers will remain in college and the exacting military duties awaiting them, academic instruction must necessarily be modified along lines of direct military value. The War Department will prescribe or suggest such modifications. The schedule of purely military instruction will not preclude effective academic work. It will vary to some extent in accordance with the type of academic instruction, *e. g.*, will be less in a medical school than in a college of liberal arts. The primary purpose of the Students' Army Training Corps is to utilize the executive and teaching personnel and the physical equipment of the colleges to assist in the training of our new armies. This imposes great responsibilities on the colleges and at the same time creates an exceptional opportunity for service. The colleges are asked to devote the whole energy and educational power of the institution to the phases and lines of training desired by the government. The problem is a new one and calls for inventiveness and adaptability as well as that spirit of cooperation which the colleges have already so abundantly shown.

There will be both a collegiate section and vocational section of the Students' Army Training Corps. Young men of draft age of grammar school education will be given opportunity to enter the vocational section of the corps. At present about 27,500 men are called for this section each month. Application for voluntary induction into the vocational section should be made to the local board and an effort will be made to accommodate as many as possible of those who volunteer for this training. Men in the vocational section will be rated and tested by the standard Army methods and those who are found to possess the requisite

qualifications may be assigned to further training in the collegiate section.

SCIENTIFIC ITEMS

WE record with regret the death of Samuel Wendell Williston, professor of paleontology in the University of Chicago; of Maxime Bôcher, professor of mathematics in Harvard University; of Dr. Byron D. Halsted, professor of botany in Rutgers College; of F. P. Treadwell, an American by birth, professor of chemistry at Zürich, and of J. Kollmann, professor of anatomy at Basel.

It is officially announced that Yale University will receive, as residuary legatee of the late John W. Sterling, at least fifteen million dollars, which will nearly double the endowment of the university.

THE new National Museum has been closed to the public by the board of regents, as all available space in the building has been occupied by the Bureau of War Risk Insurance. It is expected that the museum will be again opened when the new office building of the bureau, at Vermont Avenue and H Street, is completed. —A temporary exhibition was opened in a few of the galleries of the British Museum on August 1. The exhibition galleries were closed by order of the government as a measure of economy in the spring of 1916, and, owing to the necessity of increased precautions against air raids, all the most valuable objects have been removed to places of greater safety. The trustees, however, have deeply regretted the closing of their doors to visitors, and especially to soldiers from the overseas Dominions. An exhibition has accordingly been arranged, consisting chiefly of casts and facsimiles, which it is hoped will both be instructive in itself and representative of some parts of the treasures of the British Museum.